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The Balance, AND COLUMBIAN REPOSITORY.

"HAIL SACRED POLITY, BY FREEDOM REAR'D!
"HAIL SACRED FREEDOM, WHEN BY LAW RESTRAIN'D!"
BEATTIE.

HUDSON, (New-York) TUESDAY, January 10, 1804.

Original.

Hither the products of your closet-labors bring,
Enrich our columns, and instruct mankind.

FOR THE BALANCE.

AN ORATION,

ON THE PROGRESS OF THE HUMAN MIND TOWARDS PERFECTIBILITY,

Delivered, on a Quarter-Day, by a Student in one of the Academies in this State.

THERE are many ſubjects which, in modern days, attract the attention of man; and many new theories and practices are ſpringing up on every ſide. Man appears to be rapidly approaching his *perihelion* of perfectibility. It will not be long before the infant in the cradle will know more than his nurſe. He will learn the ſciences by inſtinct, and may be taught Aſtronomy, while at the breaſt. We ſhall then live forever. We ſhall poſſeſs ſuch a perfect knowledge of the human ſyſtem, that death will not find an avenue where he can enter. The fair ſex will then ſtudy Anatomy; and there will be no word in the language, but what may be uſed in the politeſt circles, nor idea in the mind which can poſſibly occaſion a bluſh.* Women will then be, no longer, thoſe *ſoft, effeminate, pretty ſlaves* they now are; but we ſhall ſee them laboring in rural occupations, and the mechanic arts; we ſhall behold them in the judiciary, and at the head of armies. Then the names of Mary Woolſtoncraft, and the immortal Godwin, will be written in gold; their writings will be ſubſtituted for the Bible, and the tyranny of law and religion will be known no more forever.

Perhaps ſome of my audience may think theſe ideas utopian, but let any perſon reflect a moment upon the aſtoniſhing march of the mind, in its progreſs towards perfectibility, within the laſt twenty years, and he will coincide with me in opinion.

With reſpect to the Medical art——It ought not to be called *medical*, however, for all medicine is ſoon to be laid wholly aſide—With reſpect to the *healing* art, what ſurprizing diſcoveries have been made! There are Perkins' Tractors. They will cure every thing. And if mankind would only come into the practice of uſing them, they need not be detained from their daily occupations, by the moſt acute diſeaſe, longer than to partake of an ordinary meal. There is alſo the art of Galviniſm, and Animal Magnetiſm. By the former, ſome of thoſe unhappy citizens, who have fallen by the ſtrong arm of the tyrant law, have been reſtored to life, and their uſeful labors. By the latter, aſtoniſhing cures have been performed. It has been diſcovered, that the human body has its objects of attraction, and its polarity. And man will ſoon be able to traverſe the pathleſs ocean, with no other compaſs than his own mind; he may ſurvey his fields wherever he finds them, without Circumferenter or Theodolits.

It is this Animal Magnetiſm, which occaſions the various attractions which we behold in life. It is the ſource of friendſhip—it is the ſource of love. This ſubtle fluid penetrates all bodies. It will go through fire and water, the moſt perfect metals, the hardeſt glaſs, and the diamond. Hence the famed Leander of antiquity was not detained by the Helleſpont from his beloved Hero. And do we not, in modern days, behold the youth forſaking his father's houſe—neither cold nor heat, neither ſtorm nor tempeſt can keep him from his fair. Theſe things have been beheld with wonder, for the cauſe was unknown. But all may be now accounted for, under the head of Animal Magnetiſm. Let me appeal to the feelings of my audience. Have we not all experienced a certain tremulous motion about the heart, when we have been within the ſphere of the attraction of ſome beloved object? Let any perſon bring a magnet, or a magnetized needle towards a pocket compaſs, or circumferenter, and he will perceive the ſame emotion in the needle of the compaſs. Does not this prove that love is nothing but Animal Magnetiſm? How ſtupid were our fathers, to have theſe things before their eyes, and even in their hearts, and yet remain ignorant of the cauſe!

The benefit of this diſcovery is beyond all calculation. When a perſon is influenced by this ſubtle fluid, directed towards an improper object, or one whom he cannot obtain, there is now no neceſſity of dying for love. He needs only invert the poles, and then, by the uſe of a good artificial magnet, his affections may be directed to a very different object. This diſcovery is alſo of infinite importance to married people, who have loſt a great part of their animal magnetiſm, and who are on the point of ſeparation. With a little attention this magnetiſm may be again reſtored, ſo that their affections will be as ardent as ever. But the greateſt

* *Mary Woolſtoncraft.*

benefit of all is the following :—A gentleman, who has daughters that have loſt all power of attraction, and are like to be a burden upon his hands, may, by means of this diſcovery, be enabled to remagnetize them, ſo that they will be as attractive as ever.

But there is one point in which animal magnetiſm differs extremely from the natural. It is well known that the natural magnet is attracted only by iron, and other ferruginous ſubſtances. But animal magnetiſm has a ſurprizing affinity for ſilver and gold. It ſeems alſo to be exceedingly affected by ſound. So the celebrated Meſmer of France, who firſt taught this aſtoniſhing ſcience, found great benefit from the piano forte. But it has ſince been diſcovered, that there are certain words in the language which have a far more ſurprizing effect than any muſic whatever. Great ſkill however is neceſſary in uſing theſe words, as ſome of them are to be pronounced with an audible voice, and in the preſence of numbers, while others are to be only thought of in the mind, or whiſpered in the ear of individuals.*

But the wonder of all wonders is *animal electricity*. It has lately been diſcovered that this etherial fire pervades all bodies, and is the ſoul of the world. It will cure all diſeaſes in a moment—it will prevent their approach.† And, in a word, there is no kind of doubt, but that, if we only knew how to manage this ſurprizing fluid, we could animate a machine and make it live forever. It is an infinitely concentrated maſs of this etherial fire which conſtitutes the ſun. It is this which melts the ice in the polar regions, and occaſions the tide. Man himſelf is nothing more than a maſs of matter, and this etherial fire artfully compounded. We ſhall doubtleſs e'er long diſcover the proportion, and be able to create an army of men, as eaſily, and expeditiouſly, as we could make ſo many potter's veſſels. Let us, by way of anticipation, reflect a moment upon that golden age. Let us fancy to ourſelves the artiſt, manufacturing an army. Here is exhibited a number of unanimated men, arranged in regular lines, like ſtatues or wax-work. Now he takes his electrical machine—we ſee them immediately begin to move, to breathe, to ſpeak.

Is there not a regular gradation, from the higheſt intelligence, to the moſt uſeleſs inanimate ſubſtance ? This ariſes wholly from a greater or leſs degree of *Electron*, or elementary fire, of which theſe beings are compounded. Some men appear to be almoſt wholly etherial, and others appear to poſſeſs but a ſmall degree of this ſoul of the univerſe. Some of the brute creation appear to approach very nigh, or perhaps to excel a part of the human race ; while other animals are but a ſmall degree above, if not below, mere vegetation.—When the cauſe of all this is known, and the remedy eaſy, how long will it be, before every thing will arrive to perfection. We ſhall ſoon, very ſoon, hear oyſters converſing like men, and behold the human mind breaking its corporeal ſhell, and ſoaring away, a pure maſs of electron.

Such are the amazing diſcoveries which have been made, within a few years, reſpecting natural philoſophy.

The immortal Newton—Ah, poor man ! He knew nothing of electricity and animal magnetiſm. Had he lived in our day, his mind might have been more etherial.—But, alas ! He will ſoon be thruſt into the ſhade, by exotic geniuſes, ariſing, like muſhrooms, out of the dung-hill. Have we not already ſeen that, in the Republic of France, which leads to this concluſion ? Have there not been many inſtances of lacqueis and grooms, who, although they had never learned the alphabet ; yet, by only hearing a pamphlet read in a kitchen or ſtable, have ſtarted up great ſtateſmen and philoſophers.

But, alas ! ſuffer me to digreſs a moment, to mourn over that ill-fated country. There the march of the mind has been checked by a mercileſs tyrant. How glorious were their proſpects ! How rapidly were they progreſſing ! Undoubtedly, had their happy republican government continued, as it was under Robeſpierre and the Directory, they would, by this time, have become ſo etherial, as to have been a whole nation of ſpirits.

But, to return—how ſurprizing are the improvements which the active mind of man has recently made, as it reſpects moral philoſophy. For theſe improvements we are chiefly indebted to the celebrated Voltaire, Diderot, and D'Alembert of France, Dr. Adam Weiſhaupt of Germany, and the immortal Frederick 2d King of Pruſſia.* We can form no idea of the improvements which theſe men and their followers have made, without contraſting the preſent enlightened age, with that which immediately preceded. Then the mind was fettered by the chains of ſuperſtition : we could enjoy no pleaſure, for fear of future puniſhment, unleſs we purſued the paths of rigid virtue. Many things, perfectly agreeable to human nature, were thought to be unlawful. Hence we were deprived of ſome of the beſt enjoyments of human life ; or elſe the gnawings of conſcience forever followed the poſſeſſion. But theſe men have opened our eyes. They have demonſtrated that man is, by nature, free, and that law and religion are tyranny. They have ſhewn, that this reſtraint, which has always lain upon our paſſions, is unreaſonable, and that we ſhall never be happy, till we have ſhaken off the yoke, till we have regained our long-loſt liberty. Who has given my neighbor a right to rule over me ? Who has given him thoſe poſſeſſions, which he calls excluſively his own ? Were they given him by nature ? No. It is tyranny—it is the law which has given him the bond. Who has given him the ſole poſſeſſion of that beautiful woman ? Who has ſaid, ſhe is excluſively his ? Is this the law of nature ? No—it is the law of poor deluded man ; who has thus deprived himſelf of nature's beſt gift. Shall that lazy, indolent fellow, lead about that lovely woman, beautiful as an Angel ? Shall he call her excluſively his wife ? and ſhall you and I only look on, and behold his happineſs, afar off ? Ah ! I ſhould run diſtracted—it would make me mad, were it not for the enchanting hope, that theſe days of tyranny will ſoon be over.

. . . . . " Live while ye may,
Yet happy pair ; enjoy . . . . . .
Short pleaſures, for long woes are to ſucceed."

Yes, yet long woes—but, my brethren, be not alarmed. Theſe woes will fall upon individuals only : they will not fall upon you.

My ſoul, as it reſpects the whole human race, is full of benevolence ; but as it reſpects individual tyrants, I rejoice in their blood. My benevolence is too extenſive for individuals, it comprehends the great whole. Whatever means, therefore, tend to bring about this future univerſal happineſs, in thoſe means I rejoice. Hence my ſoul is filled with exſtacy, at the ſight of a Guillotine—I could ſtand by and ſing, *ca ira*, forever—I could kiſs the ſacred machine—I could drink the blood of the victims.

Indeed, ſo great will be the future happineſs of mankind, when they come to enjoy this expected era, that ſhould half the human race be immolated on the ſhrine of equality, it would be nothing, it would be a ſubject of exultation and joy.

Rejoice then, my brethren, if you fall, you have the conſolation of dying in a glorious cauſe, and if you live, you will ſoon enjoy the golden age of the poets ; you may be allowed to ſwim in an ocean of felicity.

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* *The former of theſe words are, Liberty, Equality, Republicaniſm, Philanthropy—the latter, popular-favor, ſelf-aggrandizement, offices.*

† *See Gale on Electricity.*

* *Thomas Paine, Volney, &c. are only under ſtrappers.*

Editor's Closet.

SENATOR TRACY.

Against the reputation of this gentleman, the whole artillery of democratic slander is now levelled. He is a distinguished member of the minority in the Senate of the United States; and has raised his voice and exerted his talents in support of our constitution. He has opposed, with firmness and zeal, the alarming schemes of innovation, which have been set on foot by a domineering faction, for the purpose of making a *Virginian* PRESIDENT FOR LIFE!—he is therefore calumniated. His arguments are unanswerable—his reputation must therefore be destroyed. He has the courage to defend the freest constitution in the world—he must therefore be denounced as a monarchist. He honestly speaks the language of his constituents—his constituents are therefore ordered to "put him down."

The most serious, the most unfounded, and, consequently, the most villainous attack, has been made on Mr. Tracy, by an unprincipled slanderer, under the signature of "David," in the Hartford *Mercury*. This person, a few weeks since, related a "story," the substance of which was, that five or six years ago, Mr. Tracy *solicited a private interview* which the Rev. Stanley Griswold, of New-Milford—that, with a view of winning Mr. Griswold over to the side of federalism, Mr. Tracy explained to him the real and ultimate designs of federalists—that, in the course of the developement, Mr. Tracy lamented the general condition of ease and equality in point of property, which existed in the United States—that he considered this circumstance utterly inconsistent with the existence of a steady and energetic government—that affluence inspired men with sentiments of independence, and made every man a politician, who busied himself with affairs of state—that this state of things must be done away—that other employments must be found for the people, than reading and criticising the measures of government—that taxation was the principal engine for effecting this change, &c.—and, finally, that in order to place the government above the reach of demagogues, or of popular phrenzy, the British form must be adopted—that the chief magistrate and senate must be invested with the power and attributes of the British king and nobles, &c. As another part of his "story," David relates, that "in the month of November, 1799, Mr. Tracy, at his own house, in conversation with his neighbor general Skinner, and in the presence of his friend John Allen, expressed in substance as follows: "Our constitution general Skinner, is good for nothing, it cannot stand, and I have told you this before; but I am a senator, and having sworn to support it I shall do all I can to support it; but it cannot be done. The president and senators must be hereditary. The father must hold the office and his sons after him. It is quite enough for the common people to be allowed to choose their representatives. It must be here as it is in Great Britain; the president, or king, or whatever we are pleased to call him, must have his thousands, to buy over men to his interest whenever he pleases."

This scandalous "story" soon run through several of the little democratic *slander mills* in the country; and Mr. Tracy's friends deemed it advisable to refute the calumny in its infancy. For this purpose they procured a number of certificates from people of unquestionable veracity, and laid them before the public. These certificates proved conclusively that the whole of David's "story" was a fabrication; and it was thought a little surprizing that the writer should make use of the name of the Rev. Stanley Griswold, to support such a base calumny. At length, however, the "story" reached Mr. Griswold, (who now edits a democratic paper at Walpole, N. H.) This gentleman immediately wrote a letter to the editor of the Mercury, in which he contradicts every material fact stated by DAVID. He declares, that the interview alluded to, was *not* "solicited" by Mr. Tracy, and that it was *not* "private." He also declares, that David has misrated both the "expressions" and "ideas" communicated by Mr. Tracy. This letter was published in the Mercury of the 29th of December last, with a request that others who had published David's "story," would publish the letter also.

Here, it might have been supposed, the torrent of democratic calumny would have been checked in its course. It might have been supposed, that such a letter, from the very man that had been appealed to, as David's only witness, would have been sufficient even to induce democrats to retract their falshoods. At any rate, it might have been supposed, that there was not, in the whole gang of democratic editors, a fellow (Cheetham and Duane excepted) sufficiently depraved, to republish, after the appearance of this letter, and the certificates abovementioned, the same unfounded "story." But, reader, there is such a wretch among democratic editors; and he may be found in Hudson.

Charles Holt, captain of the Bee, with the letter of Mr. Griswold before his eyes—possessing a full knowledge of all the certificates, &c. concerning the affair, did, in his paper of last week, republish David's scandalous "story," headed with remarks of his own, calculated to impress upon the public mind, a belief, that every syllable of it was incontrovertible. While the tale stood unrefuted—as long as there was a possibility of its being *true*, Holt felt no disposition to give it currency; but the moment it was proved to be an abominable *falshood*, the miscreant seized on it with avidity, and extended its circulation. Such conduct deserves a harsher name than baseness. It is downright knavery—premeditated villainy.

The reader will find an excuse in his own feelings, for the warmth which is excited by this conduct of a hireling slanderer.

AURORA BOREALIS.

Spencer's *slave* (sometimes called *granny* Barber) has again appeared against the editor, by order of his master. I once had occasion to make known some of my reasons for not engaging in a personal contest with Barber. I have one more reason to offer, with which, I trust, the reader will be satisfied:—In the last Register, it is explicitly declared, that, by condescending to notice Barber, I have proclaimed myself a "blackguard and bully," and sunk myslef "in the mire of infamy." Surely, then, I must be cautious, and contend with him no more.

COLONEL Mathew Lyon, Anthony Haswell ESQUIRE and CAPTAIN Charles Holt, must feel very much obliged to the *'Sopus Plebeian*, for reviving, at this time, the old story of their infamy. This impertinent *Plebeian* is ungenerous enough to tell his readers that the three honorable gentlemen above-mentioned, were all fined and imprisoned under the Sedition Law—that is, they were convicted of publishing *wilful* and *malicious falsheods*, and were punished for it.

COWARDICE AND MEANNESS.

While Mr Stoddard published his Gazette, Capt. Holt affected the utmost aversion to engaging in a controversy with him. His *pretended* reasons for this aversion are well known; but the *real* cause was kept out of sight until last week. The "Obituary article," which appeared in the last Bee, announcing the death of "Miss Hudson Gazette," clearly proves that *fear* had hitherto closed the lips of the *brave* captain: For the moment that Mr. Stoddard had resigned the duties of an editor—the moment he had put out of his hands the weapons of defence, out sallies the noble captain, against an unarmed antagonist, whom he never dared to meet on equal ground. Here, reader, is a captain and a soldier for you! When cowards wear cock'd hats, and when dastardly poltroons wear swords and purloin commissions—then indeed, may Charles Holt be called a *Captain*.

I began this article for the purpose of noticing a base and invidious remark in Holt's "Obituary" paragraph. Speaking of "Miss Gazette" he says, "Of late years she has suffered a very sensible decline, from the effects of a cold taken in the damp cells of a *paper-mill*." This insinuation is totally unfounded; but had it been otherwise, C. Holt ought to be the last man in the world to twit about these matters. I have no wish to revive uncomfortable reflections; but I cannot refrain from asking if any body remembers the manner in which the *Bee* buzzed its dying notes at New-London; and how it obtained a hive in this city! If any of my readers have forgotten, I beg leave to refer them to Holt's *final notice*, published in the Bee, May, 1802.

Some time during Holt's editoral labors at New-London, he thus addressed his readers:—

"Patrons! it rests with you to fix my lot,
To bid me prosper or to bid me not.
If you (and who can honestly refuse)
Are prompt in paying me your little dues,
I'll still continue in my hard endeavor
To earn my living and the public favor;
But if you still neglect me, soon you'll see
The last expiring number of THE BEE."

When he gave notice of his approaching *end*, a hectoring editor (Luzerne Federalist) suggested to Holt to parody his former address, in the subsequent manner, and publish it in his concluding paper:—

"Ungrateful Patrons! you have fix'd my lot,
Not bid me prosper, but have bid me not.
By not being prompt in paying up your dues,
(Which were you honest you would not refuse)
So I'm resolv'd no longer to endeavor
To earn a living or the public favor;
As you have me neglected—here you see
The last expiring number of THE BEE"

Agricultural.

EXTRACT.

From the PROVIDENCE GAZETTE.

PEACH TREES.

A CORRESPONDENT desires us to mention, that those who wish to save their Peach Trees should now dig around them, and destroy the worms, leaving a hole round each tree during winter.—He adds, that he has lately proceeded in this manner with his peach trees, and found large quantities of worms.

Monitorial Department.

To aid the cause of virtue and religion.

FOR THE BALANCE.

" 'Tis greatly wise to talk with our past hours;
And ask them what report they bore to heav'n;
And how they might have borne more welcome news." YOUNG.

NOTHING can conduce more to the improvement of the morals of youth, than frequent communion with past hours. On investigation, it will be found, that persons who are in the habit of *reflecting*, seldom commit one kind of fault *twice*; and it is believed, that very few men are so heedless or so depraved that they cannot be benefitted by a view of *past hours*. If mankind in general would spend more time in reviewing the past, and less in anticipating the future, much good would result from it. By making of the memory a kind of note book; and by writing thereon the transactions of the day, the possessor is enabled, in the tranquil hours of the night, to revise the work, and make such corrections as his sober judgment may dictate. With this day's work before his eyes, he may resolve to "*turn over a new leaf*," and present a more perfect page on the morrow. Let youth of both sexes adopt this plan—let them prosecute it with care and impartiality—let them use a faithful pencil—and the time will soon arrive when they will not be ashamed to ask their past hours, *what report they have borne to heaven.*

MENTOR.

Literary Gleanings.

FOR THE BALANCE.

IN my last gleanings, I gave an extract from a Poem on Death, by Dr. PORTEUS. The same poet thus addresses the self-murderer :—

. . . . . "Hold, rash man!
Though with anticipating speed thou'st rang'd
Through every region of delight, nor left
One joy to gild the evening of thy days;
Though life seem one uncomfortable void,
Guilt at thy heels, before thy face despair;
Yet gay this scene, and light this load of woe,
Compar'd with thy hereafter. Think, O think,
And ere thou plunge into the vast abyss,
Pause on the verge a while, look down and see
Thy future mansion. Why that start of horror?
From thy slack hand why drops th' uplifted steel?
Didst thou not think such vengeance must await
The wretch that, with his crimes all fresh about him
Rushes irreverent, unprepar'd, uncall'd,
Into his Maker's presence, throwing back
With insolent disdain his choicest gift?"

Gleaning solely for amusement, I am not confined to any particular range; but rove about, wherever chance or fancy happens to lead me. My selections, must, therefore, be no less diversified than my reading. The following passage is transcribed from a publication in a late Port Folio, said to be a "translation of part of a letter, written by the late Prince *Lee Boo*,* and intended to have been sent to his Father the King of the Pelew Islands."

"There is one circumstance respecting this country, which, to my ideas, is altogether unaccountable; and that is, the great leisure they have for idleness, in the midst of such proofs of their labour and ingenuity as overpower the imagination. It surprises me the more, my beloved father, because you know I have been accustomed to see every individual usefully employed in my own country, it being one of your favourite maxims, that the happiness of your people requires it. Thou who art a mighty prince, are likewise the best workman in thy dominions; for who can make hatchets to equal thine? But here the great men can bear to sit whole days unemployed, and will eat their food with instruments which other hands have formed, and live in houses with the very principle of whose construction they are little acquainted. From all this must result a vast deal of idle time to be filled up with mere amusements; and it is astonishing how many these people have imagined, of which we have no conception. They are extremely fond of dancing; a pastime which implies much less exertion with them than with us, and consists chiefly in eating, drinking, and wearing fine ornaments. They extend this accomplishment even to the brute creation; for I observe that their dogs are taught to dance in the streets of the capital; so much leisure time have Englishmen to bestow upon these diversions."

* Lee Boo *was a young Indian Prince, who was carried from the Pelew Islands to England, for the purpose of receiving an education.*

Columbian Eloquence.

MR. TRACY's SPEECH,

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Friday, December 2, 1803,
ON THE PASSAGE OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

MR. PRESIDENT,

I MOVED an adjournment, because I thought a more full and fair discussion was due to this important question, than could be had after this late hour.

The merits have never, until now, been before us, for although considerable time has been consumed in debate, it has chiefly been directed to the subordinate amendments, and not to the main resolution. But since the senate have refused to adjourn, I will now offer some observations on the merits, in doing which, I will study brevity, as much as the importance of the subject will permit.

I shall attempt to prove, sir, that the resolution before us, contains principles which have a manifest tendency to deprive the small states of an important right, secured to them by a solemn and constitutional compact, and to vest an overwhelming power in the great states. And, further, I shall attempt to shew, that in many other points the resolution is objectionable, and for a variety of causes, ought not to be adopted.

As I shall be obliged in delineating the main features of this resolution to mention the great states in the union as objects of jealousy, I wish it to be understood, that no special blame is intended. "*Man is man*," was the maxim expressed in an early part of this debate, by the gentle-

man from South-Carolina, (Mr. Butler) and in application to the ſubject of government, the maxim is worthy to be written in letters of gold. Yes, ſir, "*man is man*," and the melancholy truth that he is always imperfect and frequently wicked, induces us to fear his power, and guard againſt his rapacity, by the eſtabliſhment and preſervation of laws, and well regulated conſtitutions of government. Man, when connected with very many of his fellow-men in a great ſtate, derives power from the circumſtance of this numerous combination; and from every circumſtance which clothes him with additional power, he will generally derive ſome additional force to his paſſions.

Having premiſed this, I ſhall not deem it requiſite to make any apology when I attempt to excite the attention, the vigilance, and even the jealouſy of the ſmall, in reference to the conduct of the great ſtates. The caution is meant to apply againſt the imperfections and paſſions of man, *generally*, and not againſt any ſtate, or deſcription of men, *particularly*.

It may be proper in this place to explain my meaning when I make uſe of the words ſmall and great, as applicable to ſtates.

Maſſachuſetts has been uſually called a great ſtate; but in reſpect to all the operations of this reſolution, ſhe muſt, I think, be ranked among the ſmall ſtates. The Diſtrict of Maine is increaſing rapidly, and muſt, in the nature of things, ſoon become a ſtate. To which event, its location, being divided from what was the ancient colony of Maſſachuſetts, by the intervention of New-Hampſhire, will very much contribute. I believe there is a legiſlative proviſion of ſome years ſtanding, authorizing a diviſion at the option of Maine. When this event ſhall occur, Maſſachuſetts, although in compariſon with Connecticut or Rhode-Iſland, will not be a ſmall ſtate; yet in compariſon with many others, muſt be ſo conſidered. I think myſelf juſtifiable then, for my preſent purpoſes, in calling Maine, New-Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts, Rhode-Iſland, Connecticut, Vermont, New-Jerſey, Delaware, Maryland and South-Carolina, ſmall ſtates. They are all limited in point of territory, and cannot reaſonably expect any great increaſe of population for many years, nor indeed, until the other ſtates ſhall become ſo populous as to diſcourage emigration, with agricultural views; which may retain the population of the ſmall ſtates as ſeamen or manufacturers. This event, if it ever arrives, muſt be diſtant. A poſſible exception only, may exiſt in favor of Maine; but when we conſider its climate, and a variety of other circumſtances, it is believed to form no ſolid exception to this ſtatement.

By the ſame rule of deciding, the reſidue of the ſtates muſt be called great; for although Georgia and ſeveral others are not ſufficiently populous, at this time, to be conſidered relatively great ſtates; yet their proſpect of increaſe, with other circumſtances, fairly bring them within the deſcription, in reſpect to the operation of the meaſure now under conſideration.

It will be recollected that in the various turns which this debate has taken, gentlemen have repeatedly ſaid that the conſtitution was formed for the people, that the good of the whole was its object, that nothing was diſcernable in it like a conteſt of ſtates, nothing like jealouſy of ſmall ſtates againſt the great; and although ſuch diſtinctions and jealouſies might have exiſted under the firſt confederation; yet they could have no exiſtence under the laſt. And one gentleman (Mr. Smith of Maryland) has ſaid that he has been a member of this government ten years, and has heard nothing of great and ſmall ſtates, as in the leaſt affecting the operations of government, or the feelings of thoſe who adminiſtered it.

Propriety, therefore, requires that we attentively examine the conſtitution itſelf, not only to obtain correct ideas upon theſe obſervations, ſo repeatedly urged; but to place in the proper light the operations and effects of the reſolution in debate.

If we attend to the conſtitution, we ſhall immediatly find evident marks of conceſſion and compromiſe, and that the parties to theſe conceſſions were the great and ſmall ſtates. And the members of the convention who formed the inſtrument have in private information and public communications, united in the declaration, that the conſtitution was the reſult of conceſſion and compromiſe between the great and ſmall ſtates. In this examination of the conſtitution it will be impoſſible to keep out of view our political relations under the firſt confederation. We primarily united upon the footing of complete ſtate equality, each ſtate had one, and no ſtate had more than one vote in the federal council or congreſs. With ſuch a confederation we ſucceſsfully waged war, and became an independent nation. When we were relieved from the preſſure of war, that confederation, both in ſtructure and power, was found inadequate to the purpoſes for which it was eſtabliſhed. Under theſe circumſtances, the ſtates, by their convention, entered into a new agreement upon principles better adapted to promote their mutual ſecurity and happineſs. But this laſt agreement or conſtitution, under which we are now united, was manifeſtly carved out of the firſt confederation. The ſmall ſtates adhered tenaciouſly to the principle of ſtate equality; and gave up only a part of this federative principle, complete ſtate equality, and that, with evident caution and reluctance. To this federative principle they were attached by habit; and their attachment was ſanctioned and corroborated by the example of moſt if not all the ancient, and the modern confederacies. And when the great ſtates claimed a weight in the counſels of the nation proportionate to their numbers and wealth, the novelty of the claim, as well as its obvious tendency to reduce the ſovereignty of the ſmall ſtates, muſt have produced ſerious obſtacles to its admiſſion. Hence it is, that we find in the conſtitution but one entire departure from the federative principle. The houſe of repreſentatives is eſtabliſhed upon the popular principle and given to numbers and wealth, or to the great ſtates, which in this view of the ſubject are ſynonimous. It was thought by the convention, that a conſolidation of the ſtates into one ſimple republic, would be improper. And the local feelings and jealouſies of all, but more eſpecially of the ſmall ſtates, rendered a conſolidation impracticable.

The Senate, who have the power of a legiſlative check upon the houſe of repreſentatives, and many other extenſive and important powers, is preſerved as an entire federative feature of government as it was enjoyed, by the ſmall ſtates, under the firſt confederacy.

In the article which obliges the electors of Preſident to vote for one perſon not an inhabitant of the ſame ſtate with themſelves, is diſcovered ſtate jealouſy. In the majorities of two-thirds required for many purpoſes by the conſtitution; although there were other motives for the regulations; yet the jealouſy of the ſmall ſtates is clearly diſcernible. Indeed, ſir, if we peruſe the conſtitution with attention, we ſhall find the ſmall ſtates are perpetually guarding the federative principle, that is, ſtate equality. And this, in every part of it, except in the choice of the houſe of repreſentatives, and in their ordinary legiſlative proceedings. They go ſo far as to prohibit any amendment, which may affect the equality of ſtates in the Senate.

This is guarding againſt almoſt an impoſſibility; becauſe the Senators of the ſmall ſtates muſt be criminally remiſs in their attendance, and the legiſlatures extremely off their guard, if they permit ſuch alterations, which aim at their own exiſtence. But leſt ſome accident, ſome unaccountable blindneſs or perfidy ſhould put in jeopardy the federative principle in the Senate, they totally and forever prohibit all attempts at ſuch a meaſure.

In the choice of Preſident, the mutual caution and conceſſion of great and ſmall

ſtates is, if poſſible, more conſpicuous than in any other part of the conſtitution.

He is to be choſen by electors appointed as the ſtate legiſlatures ſhall direct, not according to numbers entirely, but adding two electors in each ſtate as repreſentatives of ſtate ſovereignty. Thus Delaware obtains three votes for Preſident, whereas ſhe could have but one in right of numbers. Yet mixed as this mode of choice is, with both popular and federative principles; we ſee the ſmall ſtates watching its motions and circumſcribing it to one attempt only, and on failure of an electoral choice they inſtantly ſeize upon the right of a federal election, and ſelect from the candidates a Preſident, by ſtates and not by numbers. In confirmation of my aſſertion, that this part of the conſtitution was peculiarly the effect of compromiſe between the great and ſmall ſtates; permit me to quote an authority which will certainly have great weight, not only in the Senate, but through the union. I mean that of the preſent ſecretary of ſtate (Mr. Madiſon) who was a leading member of the federal convention who formed, and of the Virginia convention who adopted the conſtitution. In the debates of the Virginia convention, vol. 3, page 77, he ſays, (ſpeaking of the mode of electing the Preſident,) "As to the eventual voting by ſtates it has my approbation. The leſſer ſtates and ſome larger ſtates will be generally pleaſed by that mode. The deputies from the *ſmall ſtates* argued, and there is ſome force in their reaſoning, that when the people voted, the large ſtates evidently had the advantage over the reſt, and without varying the mode, the intereſts of the little ſtates might be neglected or ſacrificed. Here is a compromiſe. For in the eventual election, the ſmall ſtates will have the advantage."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Be it our weekly task,
To note the paſſing tidings of the times.

Hudson, *January* 10, 1804.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

The amendment to the conſtitution for deſignating Preſident and Vice-Preſident, has paſſed the legiſlature of Maryland by a vaſt majority. [*Aurora.*]

The propoſed amendment has paſſed the Houſe of Repreſentatives, in Pennſylvania, after a long and animated debate, by the very large majority of 64 to 9. [*Evening Poſt.*]

A motion made in the Senate of the United States, on the 22d ult. for adjourning for the Holidays, was negatived by the caſting vote of the vice-preſident.

On the 27th of November the Governor of Jamaica iſſued a proclamation ordering all foreigners, and the French in particular, to quit the iſland without delay, unleſs they immediately gave ſuch ſecurity as the terms preſcribed required. In conſequence of which two ſhips were chartered to carry the French to New-Orleans. [*Evening Poſt.*]

There was a report in town yeſterday, that the Corſican chief had landed *fifteen thouſand* troops in Ireland. The veſſel that brought the news was named, and was ſaid to be coming up. It was believed for an hour or two, and the price of flax-ſeed was affected. [*New-York Gazette.*]

By the laſt mail the executive received diſpatches from New-Orleans, dated on the 3d inſt. whence it appears that on the 30th ult. poſſeſſion of Louiſiana was publicly and ſolemnly delivered to France by the commiſſioners of Spain. The Spaniſh troops were of courſe preparing to embark in order to leave the province. Thoſe of the battalion of Mexico, it was expected, would depart in a few days for Havannah in a ſloop of war then at New-Orleans.

The American troops it appears, by letters received by the ſame mail, were to leave Fort Adams on the 9th inſt. with the commiſſioners of the United States for New-Orleans, where they were anxiouſly looked for both by the French comm'r and the inhabitants. [*Nat. Int.*]

TRIBUTE TO ALGIERS.

The following extract which we have tranſlated from the Leyden Gazette is well calculated to ſhew our countrymen, that the pirates of the Mediterranean can eaſily be brought to order. *Ibid.*

FLORENCE, AUG. 19.

Admiral Nelſon has bombarded Algiers for ten hours, without intermiſſion: The cauſe and details of this affair are as follows:

An Algerine fleet met an Engliſh frigate near Malta, and ſummoned her to bring to, but after receiving ſeveral broadſides, the frigate eſcaped, and gained the port of Malta. On receiving this information, two Engliſh ſhips of the line, and two frigates ſet ſail without delay in purſuit of the Barbarian ſquadron, which they overtook, and ſunk ſeven of their veſſels.

On the news of this defeat the Dey of Algiers had all the Engliſh agents thrown into irons, and their property confiſcated. Admiral Nelſon, when informed of this barbarous repriſal, ſtationed himſelf before Algiers, with a ſquadron of ſeven frigates. The Engliſh admiral immediately ordered his ſquadron to advance, and in the middle of the night commenced a briſk fire of bombs and heated balls, which ſpread fear and deſolation through the city. The Dey ſent a meſſage to lord Nelſon, who replied he could give no anſwer for ſeveral hours, during which interval the bombardment continued without interruption, in ſuch a manner as to cauſe the moſt dreadful ravages through the city. Afterwards on a ſecond meſſage from the Dey, with new propoſitions, lord Nelſon demanded that all the Engliſh agents ſhould be ſet at liberty, and a complete indemnity be made for the loſſes they had ſuſtained, with the releaſment of all the captives. He exacted beſides the ſum of 500,000 ſequins, with the promiſe that the Dey would never again make either Tuſcans or Neapolitans captives.

FOREIGN SKETCHES.

THE INVASION,

Had *not* taken place at the date of our laſt accounts.—The ſhip commerce, arrived at Philadelphia, left Liverpool on the 15th of November, at which time, it was believed the miniſtry momently looked for the French in ſome quarter—it was generally ſuppoſed Ireland would be firſt attacked.—On the 5th November, it was reported in London that Bonaparte was on the coaſt of France, ſuperintending the embarkation of his army. This rumour created conſiderable agitation. On the 8th however, it appeared that he was ſtill at Paris, and inſtead of ſhipping ſoldiers, was receiving levee company.

IRISH CONSPIRACY.

Iriſh accounts received at London, Nov. 7, mention the diſcovery of a freſh conſpiracy at Wexford. The intention of the conſpirators appears to have been to murder all the loyaliſts of the town at a given ſignal, and to have revived all the attrocities of the conſpiracy of 1798. Twenty-four perſons ſitting in committee, were ſeized with their papers. The diſcovery was made by Quigley, who had been indicted at Dublin, for high treaſon. Two

conſpirators (ſoldiers) had given information of the views of the committee. Mr. James Tandy, brother to the noted Gen. Napper Tandy, who lately died at Bourdeaux, was arreſted. Mr. Lawleſs a brewer, and brother to Surgeon Lawleſs, who fled from Ireland in 1798, was alſo arreſted. It was underſtood that all perſons having friends or connections in France, would be put in a ſtate of arreſt. Warrants had been iſſued for the apprehenſion of not leſs than 100 perſons in the neighborhood of Naas, in the county of Kildare.

Papers from Paris ſtate, that a great part of the French infantry in Switzerland has received orders to return to France, and march to the coaſts of the channel.

It was reported in London, on the 8th November, that the Emperor of Ruſſia had refuſed to liſten to diſpatches addreſſed to him perſonally from the hand of Bonaparte.

W A R,

BETWEEN SPAIN AND ENGLAND.

Capt. Ripley, who arrived at this port on Saturday laſt, from Liverpool, reports, that on the 9th Dec. he ſpoke the ſchooner Eunice, Capt. Brown, 29 days from Liſbon, for Portſmouth, who informed him that Spain had declared war againſt England, eight days before he ſailed.—The Eunice has arrived at Portſmouth; but the paper which reports her arrival makes no mention of ſuch intelligence; whether this is to be attributed to the inattention of Capt. B. in not acquainting the printer of a circumſtance of conſiderable intereſt to this country; or whether captain Ripley, miſunderſtood the tenure of the information he received, we know not. [*Boſton Gazette.*]

FROM THE SAVANNAH MUSEUM,

of December 14.

In the ſchooner Citizen, capt. Moore, from Cape-Francois, came paſſenger, (among ſeveral others) M. Magnytot, the Colonial Prefect of St. Domingo, and who we are informed by a gentleman paſſenger in the Citizen, was compelled by force to leave the colony. Gen. Rochambeau ſince the month of October, it appears, had taken a diſlike to the preſence of M. Magnytot, who during his reſidence in the colony had uniformly endeavored to repreſs the dilapidations of the General and his adherents, and conſequently became the ſubject of Rochambeau's implacable reſentment; and who, after having every obſtacle thrown in his way that could obſtruct or embarraſs the exerciſe of his functions as Colonial Prefect, eventually found himſelf forced to leave the colony, or to remain at the hazard of his life, which was rumoured to be in danger. It was not until after attacks ſo arbitrary, againſt a man poſſeſſing the confidence of the French government, that Rochambeau completely laid aſide the maſk; which he did not only by continuing his outrages upon the Prefect, but by publicly diſregarding the arretes of the Firſt Conſul, and of public opinion, in placing at the head of the adminiſtration, a man, who was alike the abhorrence and contempt, both of the French and American commerce. This ordonnateur pro tem. it is reported on good authority, has proceeded to ſign Bills of Exchange on the public treaſury of France for the Colonial Prefect; a power, which we underſtand the Prefect has not delegated to him; and which, of courſe, is an important piece of information to the commerce of this country, in order to ſecure it againſt impoſition from this quarter.

Capt. Moore, of the Citizen, alſo bro't with him 12 priſoners belonging to the Engliſh marine, which were put on board him by Rochambeau, with orders to deliver them to Commodore Loring, cruiſing off the Cape; but not meeting with him, or any other Engliſh veſſel, on his arrival he delivered them to the Britiſh Vice Conſul in this city.

SPRINGFIELD, DEC. 27.

HORRID MURDER & SUICIDE.

ON Sunday night the 18th inſt. Mr. Phinehas Moody, of Somers, (Conn.) who had for ſometime previous been in a low melancholy ſtate of mind, was led to the horrid purpoſe of murdering his family and himſelf. After the family were aſleep, he procured an axe with which he in the firſt place killed his wife and infant child, about twelve months old. His wife was badly cut in ſeveral places; her arm, on which, probably, the child lay, was cut almoſt entirely off, likely by the blow which diſpatched the infant. He then went up into a chamber where ſlept a niece of his, about eight years of age, whom he mangled in a ſhocking manner. She had ſeveral gaſhes of the axe in different parts of her face, neck and breaſt; three of her fingers cut entirely off and others partly. He then returned to his room where his wife was and left the axe, and went into a lower room and cut his own throat from ear to ear. He was about forty years of age. The next morning the deed was diſcovered by a little lad who went to the houſe with an errand, who ſpread the alarm. The ſcene was enough to "harrow up the ſoul" of a ſloic.—A jury of inqueſt was immediately ſummoned, who brought in a verdict *wilful murder!!!*

The Knot.

MARRIED,

On Saturday evening the 24th inſtant, by the right Reverend Biſhop Carrol, JEROME BONAPARTE, youngeſt brother of the First Conſul of France, to Miſs ELIZABETH PATTERSON, eldeſt daughter of William Patterſon, Eſq. of Baltimore.

The Knell.

"AT Spencertown, in this county, on the firſt inſtant, Doctor ZACHARIAH STANDISH, ſurgeon of the Hillsdale regiment of militia, in the forty firſt year of his age; leaving behind him, a diſconſolate widow and four children to bewail his loſs. He was a loving huſband, a tender parent, and a ſincere and ſteady friend; eminently uſeful in his profeſſion; and univerſally and deſervedly eſteemed and reſpected by his numerous friends and acquaintance, for the many virtues he poſſeſſed; but particularly by thoſe, who knew him beſt:

"No farther ſeek his merits to diſcloſe,
Nor draw his frailties from their dread abode,
(There they alike in trembling hope repoſe,)
The boſom of his father and his God."

The laſt ſolemn rites to his remains were performed the following day, in the maſonic order, by a reſpectable number of the brethren, and attended by a numerous collection of his friends."

[*Correſpondent.*]

To Correſpondents.

A poetical production, entitled "Man a free agent," offered for publication as *original*, is not well calculated for a newspaper. Religious controverſies ſhould be carried on through ſome other medium. The writer can lay but ſmall claims to *originality*: For the two firſt lines and many ideas in his piece, he is indebted to PETER PINDAR.

"SOCRATES *on the ſubject of the Laws*," ſhall have a place next week.

The Wreath.

EXTRACT.

The subject of GIVING or REFUSING QUARTER to the French Invaders, has recently been discussed in the British papers; and the discussion terminated in favor of forbearance. As auxiliary to the prevailing argument, the following, from the benevolent Muse of COLLINS, has been inliated. The perusal will gratify the poet as well as the philanthropist. [*Boston Centinel.*]

ODE
TO MERCY.

O THOU! who sit'st a smiling Bride,
By *Valour's* arm'd, and awful side,
Gentlest of sky-born forms, and best ador'd,
Who oft with songs, divine to hear,
Wins't, from his fatal grasp, the spear,
And hid'st in wreaths of flowers his bloodless sword.

Thou, who, amidst the deathful field,
By godlike chiefs alone beheld,
Oft with thy bosom bare, art found
Pleading for him, the youth that sinks to ground;
See MERCY, see, with pure and loaded hands,
Before thy shrine my country's genius stands,
And decks thy altar still, tho' pierc'd with many a wound.

When he, whom e'en our joys provoke,
The Fiend of Nature join'd his yoke,
And rush'd, in wrath, to make *our* Isle his prey,
Thy form, from out thy sweet abode,
O'ertook him on his blasted road,
And stopp'd his wheels, and look'd his rage away!

I see recoil his sable steeds,
That bore him swift to savage deeds;
Thy tender melting eyes they own,
Oh, Maid! for all thy love to Britain shewn,
Where Justice bars her iron tower,
To thee we build a roseate bower,
Thou! thou shalt rule our Queen, and share our Monarch's throne!

Diversity.

FROM THE CHARLESTON COURIER.

THE conduct of the present administration as compared with that of their predecessors, happening to come under discussion in a company in this city a few days ago, much good natured argument, and pleasant mutual raillery, or *badgering*, as it is called, took place. One anti-federalist, however, stuck firmly to the old stale topic of œconomy, and enlarged upon the merit of administration in filling the coffers of the treasury; while on the other hand, it was insisted that a great part of the apparent increase was not created by actual saving, or sound financial management; but by the sale of the shipping, provisions and naval stores, of that navy which the federal administration had erected, and which ought at this day to be protecting our coasts and harbours, from pirates under the name of privateers. After much argument on both sides, by which neither seemed to be convinced, one of the disputants turned to an Irishman, not long arrived in America, and said, "Well, what do you think of it?" "Why, said Pat, in answer, I'll tell you what I think of it. The financial management of your government reminds me of poor Katty Murphy, the huckster, in the town I came from." There was a general laugh, of course, and the anti-federal advocate, a little disconcerted, cried out hastily, "How, how, how in the name of wonder do you make that out?" "Why, you must know, replied Pat, that Katty, like many others, though penurious enough in heart, was so wasteful from stupidity, that she became bankrupt, and at last had nothing but one shilling and about a peck of flour; so poor soul, she went to the butcher, and gave her shilling for a breast of mutton, which she cut into twelve very *nate* little chops, of which she made twelve very *nate* little pies, and sold them for three halfpence a piece. Meeting a neighbour, she began to boast of her thrift, and *financial skill*—"I have got *six pence* clear gains this blessed morning, said poor Katty." How so? said the other. "Why, I bought a breast of mutton, she replied, for a shilling, and I made it into twelve pies, which I sold for three halfpence a piece." But where, said her more sagacious friend, where did you get the flour? Och, my dear child, said Katty, why I had that myself."

THE celebrated John A. Graham, L. L. D. was lately introduced into a room in a *Coffee* House in the city of ******** in which were several gentlemen; and began with his usual pertness and impudence, to usurp all the conversation. At length, one of the company, provoked with his pertinacious impertinence informed him, that his presence could be dispensed with.—"*Sir*, (cried the enraged descendant of the house of M********) I see you don't know me.—My name, Sir, is General John A. Graham, Sir—travelled all over Europe, Sir—I myself, Sir, was intimate with the duke of Montrose, Sir—have been in all the courts in England, Sir—I've *plead* in the *Court* of *King's Bench.*" "Have you, sir, (belched out a votary of Bacchus, fresh from his orgies, who had entered while Graham was making his pompous replication) and what did you *plead*—"*GUILTY* or *NOT GUILTY?*"

TOM PAINE,
TEMPERATE AND HAPPY!

The following is from a late Liverpool paper:—

Extract of a letter from Thomas Paine, to a friend in England.

"My property in this country (America,) has been taken care of by my friends, and is worth 6000l. sterling; which put in the funds will bring me 400l. sterling a year.

"I have yet, I believe, some years in store, for I have a good state of health, and a happy mind; and I take care of both, by nourishing the first with temperance! and the latter with abundance!"

Risum teneatis amici?

[*Evening Post.*]

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